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Working Profile: Senator Barry Goldwater

Rattling the Pentagon's Coffee Cups

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 — An old aviator named Barry Goldwater recently rattled the breakfast coffee cups in the suburbs surrounding the Pentagon. Military officials opened their morning paper to read that Mr. Goldwater, the incoming chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, favored a freeze on their budget and wanted the Reagan Administration to abandon the MX missile.

"I'm not one of these freeze-the-nuke nuts," Senator Goldwater said, "but I think we have enough, I think we have more than enough, and I don't see any big sense in going ahead building."

It was hardly the first sonic boom from the senior Senator from Arizona, who was the 1964 Republican Presidential candidate and is the father of Western conservatism. Mr. Goldwater has enjoyed a resurgence of public esteem and he seems to take a perverse delight in being provocative and unpredictable, usually in pungent language.

Dressing Down for Many

The Senator has dressed down William J. Casey, the Director of Central Intelligence, upbraided military contractors and issued a stern mind-your-own-business to politicking fundamentalist preachers, all targets accustomed to more reverent treatment from conservatives.

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